



# CONGRESSMAN FRED UPTON

*Serving Michigan's Sixth Congressional District*



December, 2001

Dear Friend:

On September 12, we woke up in a new world; a world with new fears and immense new challenges for each of us. After nearly a decade of peace and prosperity, our nation is at war.

On September 11, each one of us witnessed the unthinkable. Like most days, Congress was in session. To shave 10 minutes off my commute to the Capitol, I cut through the Pentagon parking lot. I could not have imagined what was to come about an hour later.

*"We wage a war to save civilization itself. We did not seek it, but we will fight it and we will prevail."  
—President George W. Bush*

*"The terrorists are not just the enemy of the United States, but free people everywhere, and they will be defeated."  
—Congressman Fred Upton*



*Congressman Upton discusses national security issues with President George W. Bush and other members of the Michigan delegation on board Air Force One.*

In the aftermath of the attack, Congress has acted quickly and decisively to give the President the authority he needs to bring these mass murderers to justice and passed measures to secure our airlines and bolster our economy.

While working on legislation to secure our nation, we must never lose focus on the safety and economy of our state. Should you have any questions or ideas on how we can make our communities or country a better place to live, please do not hesitate to contact me.

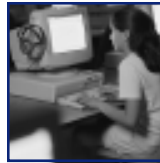
God bless you, and God bless America,

Fred Upton



## On the Homefront...

- **Threat Assessment.** Immediately following the terrorist attacks, Upton met with Michigan emergency response personnel and local nuclear power plant executives to assess our region's readiness for a terrorist attack.
- **Rapid Terrorism Response.** Upton led the successful effort to secure a Michigan based Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team from the Department of Defense after conducting meetings with local police and emergency workers. In the case of an attack, this team will coordinate communications and emergency response at the federal, state and local levels.



## Protecting Children and Families...

- **In Cyberspace.** As Chairman of the Telecommunications and Internet Subcommittee, protecting kids in cyberspace is one of Upton's top priorities. Upton is currently leading the effort to create a .kids domain on the internet, assuring parents a safe spot on the internet for their kids free from pornography and other evils.
- **At the Personal Computer.** Upton has moved legislation that would give parents greater control over the deluge of often pornographic "spam" email that comes to our personal computers.
- **Internet Taxation.** Upton opposes a tax on purchases made over the internet.



## In Congress...

- **Use of Force.** The House and Senate passed a resolution authorizing President Bush to use appropriate force against anyone or any group he determines participated in the terrorist attack, or harbored terrorist organizations.



***Congressman Fred Upton meets with General Van Antwerp at the Pentagon to discuss antiterrorism legislation. Upton presented him with a banner from St. Joseph H.S. which he attended. General Van Antwerp's office was directly hit by American Airlines flight #77.***

- **Airline Security.** The House and Senate passed a landmark measure that makes immediate changes to beef up security in every airport in the country. The bill provides safety precautions including uniform security measures, checked baggage screening and federal security personnel in airports.
- **Combating Bioterrorism.** Upton's committee is working on legislation that mandates the stockpiling of vaccines and speeds up FDA approval of drugs to combat the effects of a bioterrorist attack.

- **Securing the Lines of Communication.** At "ground zero" in New York, Upton saw firsthand the importance of making sure our nation's emergency communications system can function during an attack. As Chairman of the powerful Telecommunications Subcommittee, Upton is charged with the security of our nation's emergency communications system.

- **Expanded Law Enforcement.** Without compromising America's freedoms or civil liberties, Congress passed a bill which enhances law enforcement's intelligence surveillance tools and strengthens control at our borders. Upton sponsored an amendment that drastically increases penalties for terrorist activities.

- **Payments to Police and Firefighters.** The House and Senate passed a bill expediting payment of benefits to the public safety officers who were killed or suffered a catastrophic injury in connection with the terrorist attacks.

*"We will take strong precautions aimed at preventing terrorists attacks and prepare to respond effectively if they might come again."  
—President George W. Bush*



## Other Important Priorities...

- **Rebuilding our Economy.** Because our nation's economy needs a jumpstart, Upton introduced an economic stimulus measure that would benefit every business in America. Upton's provisions were later included in the final package that passed the House.
- **Retiring the National Debt.** In fiscal year 2001 Congress retired \$90 Billion of our National Debt.
- **Funding I-94/ US 31.** Work continues on completing US 31 in Berrien County and widening I-94 to six lanes in Kalamazoo thanks in large part to earmarks sponsored by Upton.
- **Tech Conference.** Fearing local impact of our nation's economic slowdown, Upton held a major conference, entitled, "Economic Summit '01: Empowering Innovation for Growth," with over 200 of Kalamazoo's Business Leaders. A report detailing the conference can be downloaded from [www.publicforuminstitute.com](http://www.publicforuminstitute.com).

"Just as we have vowed to rebuild New York City and the Pentagon, we must also rebuild Americans' confidence in their security."  
—Congressman Fred Upton



## Relief for Our Senior Citizens...

- **COLA Adjustment.** Supports full COLAS for social security recipients and the establishment of a COLA specific to the needs and circumstances of the elderly.
- **End the Earnings Test.** Roughly 800,000 were penalized by the Social Security earnings test until last year when Congress repealed this unfair tax on older Americans.
- **Social Security Tax Repeal.** Upton is a co-sponsor of a measure to repeal the additional tax on social security approved under President Clinton's 1993 budget. In 1993, Upton voted AGAINST increasing this tax on American seniors.



*Congressman Fred Upton speaks on the U.S. economy at the Capitol along with Senator Conrad Burns and Congressman Jerry Weller.*



## Honoring Our Veterans...

- **WWII Memorial.** The House and Senate passed a bill authorizing the construction of a long overdue World War II memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC.
- **Increased Disability Benefits.** Upton is co-sponsor of a measure that would provide veterans with both service-related disability payments and military retired pay at the same time.



## Preserving Our Environment...

- **Great Lakes Drilling.** The House and Senate passed a bipartisan measure that will prevent further drilling for gas and oil just off the shores of Lake Michigan.
- **Kalamazoo River.** Upton secured a \$1.25 million federal grant to Western Michigan University to help clean up the Kalamazoo River and the water flowing into the Great Lakes.



## Facts About Your Congressman...

- ✓ Upton is one of only two Congressmen who have not missed a single recorded vote (2,500 total votes) since 1997.
- ✓ Personally reads and signs every piece of legislative mail.
- ✓ Visits one or more schools a week.
- ✓ Has flown home to Michigan every week since Congress reconvened after the August District Work period.
- ✓ If you'd like Congressman Upton to visit your school, community group or business place contact his Kalamazoo office at (616) 385-0039.

*"This is not a question of retaliation or revenge. It is a matter of justice leading to peace."*

*—Mayor Rudolph Giuliani*

## Contacting Congressman Upton...

Because of the current mail stoppage at the U.S. Capitol,  
please call, fax, email or visit any of our offices:

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**Web:** [www.house.gov/upton](http://www.house.gov/upton)

Please check our website for up to date information on legislation and homeland security efforts.

Congress of the United States  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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residents of the 6th Congressional District.*

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